

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON BY 2-1



SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES:

Subject: Re: German Scientists--Legal Problems

Pursuant to telephone arrangements, I met today at 3:00 o'clock with Mr. David Somers, Assistant to Assistant Secretary Peterson, at the War Department. Mr. Somers had with him Lieut. Colonel Booth of the Judge Advocate General's office and Lieut. Colonel Hagood. I read excerpts from the memorandum on the State Department problems and then distributed the memorandum on legal problems which I had prepared. The upshot of the discussion was that Mr. Somers' agreed that he would discuss the matter further with a view to considering the preparation of contractual provisions for submission to JIOA.

I had the impression from remarks made by Mr. Somers that he had been told that the State Department was creating "legal obstructions" to the JIOA program. I attempted, in my exposition, to point out that we were anxious to facilitate the program but we were seeking general cooperation from the War Department. Mr. Somers was aware of the Safehaven program, in general terms, and stressed the fact that the external assets program seemed to have broken down as evidenced by the Swiss negotiations and that now the internal controls in Germany seemed to be going wrong, etc. He also said that he understood that only a limited number of scientists were to be brought in--probably not exceeding 200 or 300. Colonel Hagood stated that nobody could produce any figures on this subject.

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